



## **IEN Technical Advisory Committee**

August 4, 2010, Meeting Minutes

*(Approved by committee October 6, 2010)*

The August 4, 2010 meeting of the IEN Technical Advisory Committee was held in the Lewis & Clark Room, LBJ Building, 650 West State Street, Boise Idaho.

### **ATTENDANCE**

#### **Members/Alternates Present:**

Greg Zickau (Chair), Office of the CIO  
Jerry Reininger (Co-Chair), Meridian School District  
Brady Kraft, Idaho Education Network  
Jerry Piper, Cambridge Telephone Co.  
Blaine Beck (alt for Randy Gaines), Idaho State Univ. (VTC)  
Ryan Gravette, Idaho Digital Learning Academy

#### **Others Present:**

Sally Brevick, Office of the CIO  
Bob Collie, ENA  
Bob Gibson, NIC (phone)  
Garry Lough, IEN  
Jodi McCrosky, Qwest  
Joel Strickler, Qwest  
Keith Murphy, Qwest  
Mike Vance, ENA  
Debra Stephenson-Padilla, IEN  
Terry Pobst-Martin, Office of the CIO  
Jimmy Takata, State Dept of Education  
Don Saraceno, OVS (VTC)

### **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Jerry Piper moved and Jerry Reininger seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on June 2, 2010; the motion passed unanimously.

### **SECURITY ISSUE RE: IP ADDRESSES ON PUBLIC WEBSITE**

Terry Pobst-Martin, Chief Information Security Officer for the State, addressed the security concerns around the availability of IP addresses. Terry advised that the business purpose of the IEN far outweighs the current potential threat level. The only concern is denial-of-service attacks, but similar networks have not yet experienced this. Ms. Pobst-Martin will continue to evaluate the situation and update the committee annually or sooner if necessary. Jerry Reininger questioned whether the IEN would provide support for VTC units that schools might be purchasing in the future. This will be discussed further at a future meeting.

### **GUIDELINES FOR RECORDING CLASSES**

Brady Kraft shared a guideline that assists schools in using existing technology to record VTC classes. This guideline will become part of a procedure manual he is creating, and will be posted on the IEN web site.

### **REPORT FROM ISP MEETING**

Greg Zickau reported on the second ISP meeting held June 3. Discussion centered around the processes and requirements involved for an ISP to be a provider for Qwest. Since that meeting, Qwest and ENA

have been working on an “invitation for proposals” that they will be sending out to potential providers, the results will be reported at a future meeting.

#### Questions and discussion

Jerry Piper commented that he had spoken with Greg Lowe of Syringa regarding the costs facing independent ISP's, and he questioned whether there was an opportunity for this process to happen through Syringa, as it could be possible for schools to be connected by the end of the week. Greg stressed that the State and those who speak for the IEN, have never told Qwest or ENA to include or exclude any particular vendors. It was his understanding, from an informal conversation, that Syringa would be part of this invitation so it would be up to Syringa whether they wished to respond. Jerry Reininger reminded everyone to be cognizant of the IEN RFP and the standards that were required to be met; it was not for this committee to approve vendors or override the technical requirements of the RFP. Greg further noted that this proposed process was about making sense of the financial picture and, although it was likely to take time to develop, he was optimistic that this would be a way forward for those schools requiring suitable alternatives.

#### CONNECTIONS TARGETED FOR FALL

Brady Kraft provided an update on connections: There are 40 school districts completed, and 12 in progress. By December, 70% of all the high schools in the state will be connected to the IEN, connections are ahead of schedule at this time. Metro-Ethernet has been added to the Treasure Valley, Twin Falls, Idaho Falls, and Pocatello. This has resulted in pre-ERate savings of about \$78,000/month. Schools had originally been assigned to an implementation phase, which was appropriate in year 1, but schools are now being grouped according to whether or not VTC units can be ordered; i.e., the finance and architecture have been approved.

#### Questions and Discussion

Jerry Piper queried whether the savings brought about by the Metro-Ethernet connections would bring the overall IEN budget down. Brady advised that the savings were evident in the connectivity costs, but did not necessarily translate to savings in the overall program. For instance, the savings might be used to expand bandwidth and bring Middle schools onto the IEN earlier than intended.

#### IEN DEPLOYED BANDWIDTH RATES AND CONSUMPTION

Mike Vance reported that at the start of the IEN project in July 2009, there had been no bandwidth deployed, now there are over 500 Mbs deployed which is great progress. The committee was reminded that the level of bandwidth purchased reflects the anticipated need in five years' time. The spike in capacity between May and June is due to ENA purchasing egress in 500 MB blocks.

#### GENERAL UPDATE

Mike Costa has been hired by the IEN as a VTC Program Specialist. He will take over the internal technical support as well as interface with the school districts, ENA's support, and One Vision Solutions.

Brady Kraft noted that the process of reviewing and approving sites was more streamlined now compared with a year ago. He therefore has more time to write procedures for all IEN activities.

A training room has been built (without IEN funds) within the Capitol Mall (beneath the parking garage). Training in the use of VTC equipment is already under way.

Mike Gwartney has retired as Director for the Department of Administration; Teresa Luna is the Interim Director.

Regarding the lawsuit, counts 1 to 3 have been dismissed; count 4 will be settled through the judicial process.

The Committee adjourned at 2:54. The next meeting is October 6, 2010, from 2:00 to 4:00 in the Barbara Morgan Room, 650 West State Street, Boise.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Stephenson-Padilla, IEN